

A formula for charmonium suppression

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In this work a formula for charmonium suppression obtained by Matsui in 1989 is analytically generalized for the case of complex $c\bar{c}$ potential described by a 3-dimensional and isotropic time-dependent harmonic oscillator (THO). It is suggested that under certain conditions the formula can be applied to describe J/ψ suppression in heavy-ion collisions at CERN-SPS, RHIC, and LHC with the advantage of analytical tractability.

I. INTRODUCTION

The modification of the charmonium production cross section has been studied using a schematic 3-dimensional harmonic oscillator for the intermediate and final $c\bar{c}$ pair in [1]. In that reference the distorted wave Born approximation was used for the two-gluon fusion model and suppression ratios were calculated. In the present paper, we consider a 3-dimensional THO with a complex and continuous time dependent frequency. For such a generalization, we derive the suppression ratio for charmonia states and present a formula for J/ψ suppression including feed-down contributions.

II. QUANTUM MECHANICAL EVOLUTION OF THE $c\bar{c}$ STATE

The Charmonium suppression ratio was defined as a ratio of two cross sections by the expression $S_\psi(t) = \frac{\sigma(2g \rightarrow \psi)}{\sigma_0(2g \rightarrow \psi)}$ and was calculated explicitly in Ref. [1]. From Eqs. (2.22) and (4.17) of that paper the survival probability for the s-wave can be written in the following form

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$$S_\psi(t) = \left| \frac{\int_0^\infty dr r^2 \psi(r) U_{c\bar{c}}(r, t)}{\lim_{t \rightarrow 0} \int_0^\infty dr r^2 \psi(r) U_{c\bar{c}}(r, t)} \right|^2. \quad (1)$$

III. TIME EVOLUTION OPERATOR FOR THE THO MODEL

We make use of the standard path integral approach in order to calculate the time evolution operator $U_{c\bar{c}}(r, t)$. We start by considering a 3-dimensional isotropic THO model with the Hamiltonian $H = \frac{p^2}{2\mu} + \frac{\mu}{2} \omega^2(\tau) r^2(\tau)$, where r is the $c\bar{c}$ separation and the complex function of time $\omega(\tau)$ enters in the classical equation of motion for the heavy pair as

$$\ddot{r}(\tau) + \omega^2(\tau) r(\tau) = 0. \quad (2)$$

The general solution of equation (2) is a linear combination given by $r(\tau) = \rho(\tau) \left(A \cos \gamma(\tau) + B \sin \gamma(\tau) \right)$, where $\gamma(\tau) = \int_0^\tau dt' \frac{1}{\rho^2(t')}$. Replacing these definitions into (2), clearly leads to the following Ermakov equation [2]

$$\ddot{\rho}(\tau) + \omega^2(\tau) \rho(\tau) - \frac{1}{\rho^3(\tau)} = 0. \quad (3)$$

If $\tau \in [0, t]$ then A and B can be easily obtained from the initial conditions as

$$A = \frac{r(0)}{\rho(0)}, \quad B = \frac{1}{\sin \gamma(t)} \left[\frac{r(t)}{\rho(t)} - \frac{r(0)}{\rho(0)} \cos \gamma(t) \right]. \quad (4)$$

Where we have used that $\gamma(0) = 0$. By replacing A and B in the general solution, we obtain $r(\tau)$ and $\dot{r}(\tau)$. For a THO the classical action s_{cl} and the fluctuation factor $F(t)$ in the 3-dimensional isotropic space are defined in Ref. [3]. We calculate here their relationship with Ermakov function as¹

$$\begin{aligned} s_{cl} &= \frac{\mu}{2} \left(r(t) \dot{r}(t) - r(0) \dot{r}(0) \right) \\ &= \frac{\mu}{2} \frac{1}{\sin \gamma(t)} \times \left[r(t)^2 \left(\dot{\gamma}(t) \cos \gamma(t) + \frac{\dot{\rho}(t)}{\rho(t)} \sin \gamma(t) \right) \right. \\ &\quad \left. + r(0)^2 \left(\dot{\gamma}(0) \cos \gamma(t) - \frac{\dot{\rho}(0)}{\rho(0)} \sin \gamma(t) \right) - r(t) r(0) \left(\frac{\rho(t)}{\rho(0)} \dot{\gamma}(t) + \frac{\rho(0)}{\rho(t)} \dot{\gamma}(0) \right) \right], \quad (5) \end{aligned}$$

$$F(t) = \sqrt[3]{\frac{\mu}{2\pi i} \left(-\frac{\partial \dot{r}(t)}{\partial r(0)} \right)} = \sqrt[3]{\frac{\mu}{2\pi i} \frac{\rho(t) \dot{\gamma}(t)}{\rho(0) \sin \gamma(t)}}. \quad (6)$$

¹ We use the notation $\dot{r}(t) = \frac{dr(\tau)}{d\tau}|_{\tau=t}$ for all functions of time.

The time evolution operator for THO is given exactly by $U(r, t) = F(t) \exp(i s_{cl})$. In the present context, it will represent the quantum mechanical evolution of a $c\bar{c}$ state for a medium-modified (distorted) interaction up to the time t when it gets projected onto the asymptotic bound state spectrum. Thus we define $U_{c\bar{c}}(r, t) = U(r, t)$. In fact formula (1) is independent of the initial condition which may be taken as $r(0) = 0$.

IV. THE THO FORMULA FOR CHARMONIUM SUPPRESSION

The ground state of charmonium J/ψ can be identified with the 1s-wave of the harmonic oscillator given by $\psi(r) = \psi(0) \exp\left(\frac{-r^2}{2 r_\psi^2}\right)$ with $r_\psi = \sqrt{\frac{1}{\mu \omega_\psi}}$ [4]. Thus we integrate the gaussian shape over r appearing in (1) which leads to the following suppression

$$S_{J/\psi}(t) = \left| \frac{\rho(t)}{\rho(0)} \right|^3 \times \left| \cos \gamma(t) + \left(\frac{\dot{\rho}(t) \rho(t)^{-1}}{\dot{\gamma}(t)} + i \frac{\omega_\psi}{\dot{\gamma}(t)} \right) \sin \gamma(t) \right|^{-3}. \quad (7)$$

The formula (7) depends on $\gamma(t)$, the frequency ω_ψ and the Ermakov function $\rho(t)$. For the case of the charmonium state ψ' we take the 2s-wave given by $\varphi(r) = \frac{2}{3} \varphi(0) \left(\frac{3}{2} - \frac{r^2}{r_\psi^2} \right) \exp\left(\frac{-r^2}{2 r_\psi^2}\right)$. Applying the formula (1) we obtain

$$S_{\psi'}(t) = S_{J/\psi}(t) \left| 1 - \frac{2 i \omega_\psi \sin \gamma(t)}{\left(i \omega_\psi + \frac{\dot{\rho}(t)}{\rho(t)} \right) \sin \gamma(t) + \dot{\gamma}(t) \cos \gamma(t)} \right|^2. \quad (8)$$

For the Charmonium state χ_c we take the 2p-wave given by $\chi(r) = \chi'(0) r \exp\left(\frac{-r^2}{2 r_\psi^2}\right)$. However, in this case there is a contribution of the angular momentum and it was shown in Ref. [1] that for such waves the formula (1) vanishes and the next-to-leading order term in momentum $O(p/m)$ must be considered leading to the expression

$$S_\chi(t) = \left| \frac{\int_0^\infty dr r^2 \chi(r) U'_{c\bar{c}}(r, t)}{\lim_{t \rightarrow 0} \int_0^\infty dr r^2 \chi(r) U'_{c\bar{c}}(r, t)} \right|^2 = S_{J/\psi}^{\frac{5}{3}}(t), \quad (9)$$

with $U'_{c\bar{c}} = -\frac{\mu r}{2 \sin \gamma(t)} \left(\rho(t) \dot{\gamma}(t) \rho(0)^{-1} + \rho(0) \dot{\gamma}(0) \rho(t)^{-1} \right) U_{c\bar{c}}$. The observable J/ψ suppression ratio is influenced by feed-down from the higher charmonia states and we shall assume the following composition of the total contribution

$$S(t) = 0.6 S_{J/\psi}(t) + 0.3 S_\chi(t) + 0.1 S_{\psi'}(t). \quad (10)$$

The case of no feed-down is described by the expression $S_{no}(t) = S_{J/\psi}(t)$. Since we have already shown that $S_\chi(t) < S_{J/\psi}(t)$ and $S_{\psi'}(t) < S_{J/\psi}(t)$ for $S_{J/\psi}(t) < 1$ it is clear that $S(t) < S_{no}(t)$.

V. SUMMARY

We have generalized Matsui's harmonic oscillator model for charmonium suppression to the case of time-dependent complex oscillator strengths and included the effects of feed-down on the J/ψ suppression ratio. Preliminary results for the comparison with experimental results from CERN SPS and RHIC can be found in [5].

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